ARTICLES

to be enquired of within the Dioces of Winchester, in the Metropoliticall visitation of the most Reuerend Father in Christ, Matthew by the prouidence of God, Archbyshop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, and Metropolitan.

Parker

1575.

AT LONDON
Printed by Iohn Daye, dwellyng ouer Aldersgate.
1575.

¶ *Cum gratia & Priuilegio Regiæ Maiestatis.*

BIBLIOTHECA·BODLEIANA·

IN primis, whether any haue intruded them selues, & presume to exercise any kynde of ministerie in the Churche of God, without imposition of handes & lawfull calling by ordinarie authoritie; and whether any admitted but to Deaconrie vsurpe the office of the Minister.

2 Item, whether any laye persons take vpon the to read openly in the congregation diuine seruice, in any Church, Chappell or oratorie, without they be thereunto vpon some vrgent cause, or great necessitie for a tyme licenced by the ordinary. wherefore such haue bene allowed, and how long they haue serued, and whether any of them haue taken vpon them to solemnise Matrimonie, or to minister any Sacrament.

3 Item, whether any homicide or felone, any notorioullie infamous, & diffamed by the Ecclesiasticall lawes, any ordeined out of the Dioces where they were borne, or by long tyme made their abode without letters dimissories from their ordinarie, exercise the ministerie, or any Ecclesiasticall calling in this Dioces.

4 Item, whether any Deacon or minister be remoued from any other Dioces to serue in this, without letters testimoniall of the ordinarie from whose Dioces he came to testifie the cause of his departyng thence, and of his behauiour.

5 Item, whether any Deacon or minister in this Dioces go not comely and soberly in apparell according as it is appointed in the Queenes maiesties Iniunctions, and in the aduertisementes, or liue disordinatly in rioting, gaming, hawking, hunting, or beholding and gaping at any Idle pastime, or exercising any laicall trade, or misterie for gayne and lucre slaunderous to their calling in the Church.

6 Item, whether any being once ordeined Priest or minister, doth not still continue in their calling, or frequenteth and resorteth not to the Common prayer, or at times appointed communicateth not, or haue cast of their calling, and go and boast themselues lyke laye men.

7 Item, whether any of them say or sing in priuate conuenticles Masse, or any seruice contrary to the lawes of this Realme.

8. Item, whether any be permitted to preach in any place within thys Dioces, not being thereunto lawfully ipresed either by the Queenes Maiestie, or the Archbyshop of the Province, or the Byshop of the Dioces, and whether the Parson, Vicare or Curate and Churchwardens of euery Parishe do call for euery such licence, and peruse it before they suffer the party to preach.

9 Item, whether your Preachers set out in their sermons the Queenes Maiesties authoritie ouer all her subiectes, & in all causes, and exhort their

hearers

hearers to due obedience vnder the same, to the folowyng of her Maiesties Iniunctions, and other lawes, statutes, orders, aduertisments and decrees set forth by common authority for the establishyng of Christian Religion and maintenaunce of the Ecclesiasticall pollicie in this Realme, or whether any of them haue done or sayd any thyng to the contrary.

10 Item, whether they likewise in theyr preachyng excite and styrre vp the people to charitie one with another, to godlynesse of lyfe, often and deuout receauyng of the holy Communion, frequentyng diuine seruice, hearyng the worde of God read or taught, and such like, and also to all kynde of Ciuill dutyes meete for subiectes, or be curious in mouing new needelesse doubtes, whereby the people may be sooner styrred to debates and controuersies, then edified in holsome doctrine, continued in Christian loue, or prouoked to godly lyfe.

11 Item, whether in their conuersation and behauiour, they be modest, graue, and sober, accordyng to theyr callyng, and for the better credite of their doctrine, or otherwise.

12 Item, whether your Parsons or Vicars, be continually resident vpon their benefices, if they be absent, where they be: whether in their absence their cures be sufficiently discharged and serued.

13 Item, whether they haue any other or moe be-

nefices, in what Countey or Diocese they lye, whether they came to any of them by fraude, guile, deceit, or Symonie.

14 Item, whether they make or cause to be made their monethly and quarterly Sermons, instruct and examine the youth of their Parishes in the Catechisme at Euenyng Prayer on Sondayes and holydayes: whether they moue the Parishioners and the Parentes to buy the Catechisme lately set forth with additions by the Queenes Maiesties authoritie: whether they reade the Homylies on Sondayes, when there be no Sermons, and the Queenes Maiesties Iniunctions euery quarter.

15 Item, whether and howe long after his Induction, your Parson or Vicare read openly in your Church at diuine seruice, the Articles of Religion whiche concerne the confession of the true Christian fayth, and the doctrine of the Sacramentes appointed to be publiquely read by an Acte of Parliament made in the xiij. yeare of her Maiesties reigne.

16 Item, whether they pronounce diuine seruice and other thynges to be read at common prayer playnely and distinctly to the hearyng and intelligence of the people, & minister the Sacramentes reuerently, in such sort as is set forth by the lawes of this Realme, the Queenes Maiesties Iniunctions, and the aduertisementes, without any binde of variation.

17 Item,

17 Item, in the tyme of celebration of diuine ſeruice whether they weare ſurpliſſes, or celebrate the ſayd ſeruice in the Chauncell or in the Church, Baptiſe in Baſons or in the Fontes ſtandyng in the places accuſtomed, miniſter the holy Communion in water bread, or cõmon bread, in prophane Cuppes, dishes, bowles, old maſſing Challices, or in a decent communion cuppe prouided and kept for the ſame onely of purpoſe, & whether the Communicantes receaue ſtãdyng, kittyng, or kneeling.

waferbread

18 Item, whether they haue entred into their benefices without lawfull ingreſſe thereunto by Inſtitution, or Collation & Induction, whether they maintaine their manſions houſes, Chauncels and other edifices pertainyng to their benefices and Churches in ſufficient reparations, and whether they make ſpoyle or waſt of any thing pertaining to them.

19 Item, whether ſuch of them as may diſpend an C. pound in ſpirituall liuynges by the yeare, alloweth to the exhibitiõ of ſome Scholler in Cambridge or Oxford iij. pounds vi.s. viij. pence yearely, and what ſcholler receaueth it.

20 Item, whether any of thẽ haue dempled any of their benefices, or any part of them otherwiſe then is appointed in an Act of Parliament. an. 13. of the Queenes maieſties reigne cap. 17. or in defraude thereof conuey the fruites of the ſame by ſome other ſhiftes any other wayes.

21 Item, whether they recorde from time to time in a Register all mariages, Christening and Burials, and yearely deliuer the copies of them to the Bishop by Indenture.

22 Item, whether in the dayes of perambulatiō they vse any other rite or Ceremonie then to sing or say in English the .v. Psalmes beginning. Benedic anima mea. &c. with the Letanie and Suffrages thereto, and one Homely of thākes giuyng set forth and deuided into foure partes, without any other superstitious ceremonie heretofore vsed, whether wome gō about with them, and to what value there was heretofore wont to be bestowed at the stādyng and restyng places of the sayd Rogations to be bestowed.

23 Item, whether they vse to comfort the sicke specially at the tyme of their passyng out of this transitorie world, and what textes of Scripture they haue ready for the same purpose.

24 Item, whether any of them or their Curates not being lawfully authorised to preach take vpon them to expound any Scripture, or by the way of exhortation moue any matter of doctrine, but be content onely to read gravely & aptely the seruice, lessons, and Homelies set forth without any glosing or addition to the same.

25 Item, whether they admit any notorious sinners or vncharitable persons to the holy Communion, any that can not say without booke the Lordes Prayer, the Articles of Christian Fayth,

and

and the x. Commaundementes, or suffer any chil-
dren to answere as Godfather or Godmother at
Baptisme except they haue receiued the holy Co-
munion, and can say the Catechisme.

26 Item, whether they keepe competent hospita-
litie, accordyng to theyr liuinges, and if they be
not resident, whether they bestow the reliques of
their liuyng yearely amongest the poore, if their
lyuing be aboue xx.l. a yeare.

27 Item, whether such beneficed men, or enioy-
ing any spirituall lyuing, as be not resident at their
liuinges, if they pretend studye at any of the Vni-
uersities, be once in the yeare called home to the
Ordinary to be examyned how they profite in
learnyng, whether any be suffred wyth the liuing
of the Church to become farming or awayting men,
Lawyers clarkes, or otherwyse to liue dissolute-
ly or in a mere lay vocation therwith.

28 Item, whether your Parson, or Vicar was
inducted into possession of your parsonage or vi-
caredge since the xiij. yeare of the Queenes maie-
sties raigne, whether he was then Deacon or mi-
nister, and in what yeare of hys age: whether he
was an able preacher licensed thereunto, and by
whom: whether, and how long after his inducti-
on he read openly in your Church at diuine seruice,
the Declaration of vniformity in Religion set forth
by the two Archbyshoppes of Canterbury and
Yorke.

29 Item, whether any parsonage or vicarege, or

any other ſpirituall liuing in thys Dioces be holden by the name and title of any beyond the ſeas, and whether the cauſe of hys beyng there be lawfully approued and allowed.

30 Item, beſides benefices wyth cure of ſoule, what other dignities, promotions, prebendes or ſpirituall lyuinges your Parſon or Vicar hath, what be theyr names, and where they lye.

parsonages 31 Item, whether the proprietaryes of parſonages wyth vycariges endowed, leaue a ſufficient portion of the fruites, or annuitye to the Vicares to diſcharge the cure of ſoules, and to keepe hoſpitalitye: whether they helpe and aſſiſt them in the preaching and ſettyng forth of Gods worde, and ſeyng the Queenes maieſties Iniunctions, and other ſtatutes, orders, and aduertiſmentes ſet forth by publicke authoritye well obſerued: whether they wythhold from theyr Vicares theyr due portions of fruites or monye, or ouercharge thē with reparations of Chauncels, dutyes for viſitations and ſynods, or other paymentes, and whether for the eaſe of the ſayd Vicares, they pay ſuch dutyes as by compoſition or cuſtome hath heretofore bene due.

parish Clarkes 32 Item, whether the pariſhe clarkes be admitted without the conſent of the Parſon or Vicar: whether they be not obedient to the Parſons, Vicars, or their Curates, ſpecially in matters touchyng the celebration of diuine ſeruice, and the Church buſines: whether they keepe the bookes & orna-

ornamentes of the Church, the quyer or the place where diuine seruice is appointed to be done, the Communion table, the Pulpit, and the Font fayre and decent, for diuine seruice, administration of the Sacramentes and preachyng: whether any withhold from the sayd Clarkes their accustomed wages, relieke and beneuolence.

33 Item, whether any Scholemaster teach openly or priuately within thys Dioces, in any noble or gentlemans house, or any where els not beyng allowed and exampned by ỹ Ordinary for syncere Religion, honest conuersation, and sufficient learnyng: whether they teach any other Grammer, or any other Catechisme then is set forth by the Queenes maiesties authority: whether they sukfer theyr schollers to read any bookes tendyng to the impugnyng and derogation of the order of religion now set forth, or propounde to them any Themes, vulgares, or subtill questions, wherby matters of Religion concluded and establyshed myght be made doubtfull vnto them, or they induced to deryde or scoffe at any godly order, Ryte or Ceremony now set forth and allowed.

For the Laytie.

34 IN primis, whether any parishioner is negligent or obstinate in commyng to his owne parishe Church or Chappell for diuine seruice, and their receauyng the holy Communion at the least

thrise a yeare, contempne the worde of God, or in deede or worde despiseth or setteth lyght by the publike order of Religion set forth & establyshed.

35 Item, whether any contempne, hurt, stryke, or any wayes abuse any minister or Deacon, specially in the tyme of celebration of diuine seruice, administration of the Sacraments, or preaching of Gods worde, or whether any of them neglect or refuse to bryng or send their children and seruauntes to be catechysed.

36 Item, whether Innes, Tauernes, victayling and typpling houses or gamyng places be patent or entred into, in seruice or preachyng tyme, whether there be any aduilterers, dronckards, baudes, scoldes and brawlers, privy and crafty sowers of discorde, open and manifest vsurers, sorcerers, inchaunters, or any hauing confidence in any such deuilishe imaginations in your parishes.

37 Item, whether you Churchwardēs & sworne men, and such as were before you, haue according to the acte of Parliamēt therfore in the first yeare of the Queenes maiesties raigne prouided, leuied of euery one that wilfully or negligently is absent from Church, or vnreuerently behaueth hymselfe at common prayer as is in the sayd acte appoynted xij.d. for euery such offence. Wherunto the said forfayture is applyed, what accompt therof yearly is made, & whether your poore mans box be accordingly kept, and the almes therof accompted yearly to your parishe.

leuyed xij d

38 Item,

38 Item, whether all Images, altars, Shrynes, and other monumentes of Idolatry and superstition be vtterly defaced & put out in your parishes: whether your Churches and Churchyardes be well repayred, adorned and fenced: whether the Roode lofte be pulled downe, and a partition made and kept betwixt the Chauncell and the Church, according to the aduertisments. Whether likewise all masse bookes, Antiphoners, Grayles, & other such bookes which serued for superstitious Latin seruice, be defaced and abolished.

39 Item, whether you haue in your Churches all thinges requisite for commō prayer & administration of the Sacramentes, and preaching: As a Bible of the largest volume, the booke of common prayer, a table of the x. Commaundements before the Communion bourde, the aduertisments, the admonition for degrees of matrimony, a conuenient pulpit well placed, a comely and decent Communion Table stāding vpon a frame wyth a faire couering of some carpet, silke or linnen cloth to lay vpon it, a Communion cuppe wyth a couer of siluer, and such lyke.

40 Item, whether any sale of your church goods haue bene made, by whom, and to whom: whether an Inuentory be kept of all such goods as haue from tyme to tyme bene purchased, geuen or bequeathed to the Church, whether an accompt be therof yearly made: whether the sayd goods be encreased or decayed, and by whose default or

negligence: In whose handes the sayd Church goodes or any of them remayne.

41 Item, whether you see that on Sondayes & holydayes, Innes, tauernes, & victualling houses be not frequented at seruice tyme, and shoppes also shut vp, & your Parishioners cease from worldly bulines, whether any other holydayes be kept then such as be appointed in the booke of Commō prayer, whether any hereses, false opinions, Popish and superstitious doctrine, be mainteined in your Parishes and by whom.

42 Item, whether there be any in these partes, that haue maried within degrees of affinitie or consanguinitie, by the lawes of God forbidden, so set out in a table for an admonitiō. Any man that hath two wiues, or any woman that hath two husbandes. Any that beyng diuorced or separated aside, hath maried agayne. Any maried that haue made precontractes. Any that haue made priuy or secret contractes. And that haue maried without banes thrise solemnely asked. Any couples maried that liue not together, but slaunderously liue a part: Any that haue maried out of the Parishe Churche, where they ought to haue the same solemnised.

43 Item, whether therebe any secret or priuy cōuenticles or exercises in disputations for matters of Religion in any of your Parishes, whether any superstitious and superfluous ringyng at burials, Saintes euēs, or festiuall dayes be suffered. whether

ther any Lordes of misrules, Sommer Lordes or Ladyes, disguised persons come vnreuerently into the Church and specially in the seruice tyme to play any games, who they be that cõmit such disorders or accompany and mainteyne them. Sommer L.

44 Item, whether any patrones haue by thẽselues or by other directly or vndirectly practised for the presentyng of any Clarke to any spirituall liuyng before the sayd presentation, or after to haue money or money worth or any other commoditie. whether the Churche of your Parishe be voyde, how long it hath so bene, who receiueth the tithes and profites therof, and by what authoritie, whether the patrone or any other haue pulled downe any Church, chaũcell or mansion house taking away the lead, belles, ornamentes, goodes or glebe landes or conuerted the tithes, reuenues or possessions of the sayd Church to his owne priuate vse.

45 Item, whether any conceale the will and testamẽt of any departed or fulfill not ẏ same, chiefly in Legacies bequethed to good and godly vses, whether any executor haue defrauded any widow, fatherles child, or any other in their minoritie of their legacies, or any administrator appointed to administer to the vse of any in their minoritie haue beguiled them and not geuen accompt of their sayd administration. whether any administer without probate of the Testament or takyng authoritie from the ordinary, and whether any legacies heretofore guen to vses now forbidden, be not conuerted to some godly and lawfull vse. executor & administrator

Mydwyfe 46 Item, whether midwiues be of sober life and vncorrupt religio, not suspected of Papistry, whether any of them vse in the tyme of womens trauell any witchcraft, charmes, Latine prayers or inuocations, or take vpon them to Baptise, whether when they be present at the deliuerie of any child knowne or suspected to be begotten in vnlawfull matrimony, do not streightly charge the mother to declare who is the father and where it was begotten, and immediatly certifie the ordinarie or at the least the Curate & Churchwardens of the Parish therof.

Articles of enquirie for the exercise of spirituall iurisdiction within this Dioces.

47 IN primis, whether the Ecclesiastical iurisdiction in this Dioces haue bene exercised by expert and hable men such as the law requireth. Whether the Chancellor, Archdeacons, or any vnder them haue at any tyme suffered faultes & trãsgressions to remaine vnpunished for mony, gaine, pleasure, fredship, or any other affectionat respect, whether in matters of instaunce betwixt partie & partie they haue denyed audience, specially at the complaint of the poore fredles and fatherles, or by admitting fetuolous and vnfit matters, or excludyng and barring reasonable and necessary defenses, haue delayed or peruerted iustice or the execution therof. Whether they haue impeached or maliced parties in iudgement so that they haue bene

delayed

stayed or cõpelled to desiste from persecuting their Appeales or complaints to the Queenes maiestie or the Archbishop for iust griefes and wrongs to them procured.

48 Itẽ, whether any of them haue bene burdensome to any in this Dioces by exacting & takyng excessiue fees, rewardes or cõmodities by the way of promotion, gift, contribution, redemption of penaunce to their owne vse, obteining of any benefice or office, or any other like wayes, whether in their visitatiõs and Synodes they spend the time any otherwise then in diligẽt Inquisition and reformation of disorders, or suffer the Clarkes or seruauntes of their retinue riotously to behaue themselues.

49 Item, whether Archdeacons in their visitations see that all necessary bookes and ornamẽtes for diuine seruice be had in euery parish, and whether Church goodes and stockes be augmented or empayred, whether Churches, Churchyardes, mãsion houses be well repaired and fenced. Whether in their Synodes they take accõpt of the Clergy how they profite in the study of holy Scripture, whether they graunt any licence to celebrate matrimony the banes not thrise solẽnely asked, either for prohibition of tyme or any other such cause.

50 Item, whether they haue vprightly & vnfeynedly both obserued in their own persons, and towardes all other put in due executiõ the Ecclesiasticall lawes of this Realme the Queenes Maie-

ties Iniunctions & other her highnes cõmaunde-
mentes, orders, decrees, and aduertisementes set
forth for the publike administration of Gods holy
word and Sacramẽtes. whether they haue com-
mẽded and fauored all those that sought the same,
and condignely punished all those that sought the
contrarie.

Deanes xvr 51 Item, whether the Deanes of your Deanries
be of the best learned sort, and best conuersation,
and least suspected for superstitious or schismati-
call doctrine & opinions: whether they doe marke
the lyfe and study of the clergie, and enforme the
Ordinary or Archdeacons therof: whether they be
negligent in executing mandates or precepts sent
vnto them frõ any Ecclesiasticall court: whether
they enquire of lyght womẽ which come into their
Deanries to be brought a bed, of Curates and
scholemasters not licensed, of priuy cõtractes and
mariages, of conceãled Images and monuments
of superstition, and of other close disorders vsed
within their Deanries, certifying the Ordinary
therof for due and spedy reformation.

52 Item, whether your peculiar Judges exercise
their Jurisdiction by themselues or by learned de-
puties, and not by vnable men, as their farmers &
such lyke: whether they haue skilfull registers and
perfect record of their actes and procedings: whe-
ther they winke at such as be harboured in their
peculiers for auoyding of processe and correction
in thys or any other Dioces, and detect them not
to the Ordinary.

53 Item,

53 Item, whether your apparitors haue taken money or money worth, for concealing or cloking of any vice, or haue conueyed any offenders from one place to an other to escape punishment, or cited any body without due processe, or delay the execution and seruyng of their processe, or geue warnyng to the party cited, to keepe him out of the way, or dispitefully serue their processe in time of diuine seruice, to the disturbance of the parishe: whether they appointe vndercommers or substitutes to doe their office, or threaten any with processe, or without, for bribes in corne, woll, cheese, or any thyng els: whether any of them be ouerchargeable to the Clargie or Layty in trauailyng about the executing of their sayd processes. Apparitors

54 Item, whether the Registers and Notaries within this Dioces make iust & true recordes of actes done & passed in their presentes, and deliuer at ỳ parties request true coppes of the same without excessiue taking: whether they or any of them take annuall fees of any of the clergy, or their farmers, for exhibiting proxies in visitations or synodes, or excusing their absence, and sauing theyr apperance when they should iudicially come in, or any other respect, whereby parcialitie myght grow, and equity be excluded out of iudgement.

55 Item, whether the Proctors of the Ecclesiasticall court be cõtẽted with their ordinary fees: whether any of them incourage their clyentes to persist in euyll and wrongfull causes, or bargayne with them before hand for the gayne of any sute Proctors.

after the cuictio: whether any of them deuise and obiect friuolous, impertinēt and dilatory matters or allegations, to the intent to prolong suites, and hinder the expedition of Iustice, and specially in causes of Matrimony, alementation of fatherles children, and such lyke summary matters.

56. And generally you shall enquire and present all euill liuers, or offenders of Gods most holy lawes, and specially such as stubburnely refuse to conforme themselues to vnitie and good Religion, or that disturbe the same by bruting abroade rumors of the alteration therof, or lecke new deuises and innouations.